

EDITORIALS

A Defense Problem

With the news that some 30 Torrance area residents will be dismissed this week by an aircraft plant, and rumors that smaller plants also will be forced to cut personnel, many local people will discover the true meaning of the phrase, "tight money."

Heretofore, this expression was regarded as a bureaucratic way of explaining what has happened to the country's highly inflated economic system.

Actually, economic authorities maintain this sudden canceling of government contracts should have no lasting effect on the economic system.

Tight money actually has been in effect for quite awhile. In small ways, local persons already are experiencing the results. Charity drives are falling behind last year's quotas, it's harder to sell new cars, and all in all, people are not buying either the quantity or the quality they did last year.

One shining fact, though, is that more workers are saving their money. Banks and savings and loan firms report accounts are markedly up this year.

The nation's inflated economy has to stop somewhere. Steel prices received another boost, and the results soon will be reflected in almost every other industry that produces steel products — from automobiles to can openers.

Here in Torrance a glimmer of what could happen to the nation is being revealed. If all the unemployed can be put back to work without undue hardship and loss of time, it will be a good sign that the country is really sound — that this isn't a false economy.

A Glimmer of Hope

Friday's practice bomb drop and the rescue operations which were launched after the first simulated bomb drop made several points clear.

First, if you happened to be within an area comprising a four-mile diameter around the drop point — don't worry. Death and destruction within this area is virtually complete.

If you were a little farther away — say outside the four-mile circle, but within an 11-mile circle, your chances would be slim. About 85 per cent would be destroyed in this area. Outside of the 11-mile circle but within a 20-mile circle (that's within 10 miles of the blast center) survival would rate a high percentage, although damage would still be heavy.

The best defense is to be someplace else when one of the new 20-megaton bombs hits.

LAW IN ACTION

Criminal Trials

After the court swears the jurors in, the prosecutor in a criminal case tells them what he plans to prove, and calls his first witness.

As the prosecutor gets through with each witness, the defense counsel may cross-examine him. Cases such as a recent English murder trial are often won on cross-examination, where a witness' story may fall to pieces.

1. The prosecution's witnesses must prove that someone has committed a crime. This is the corpus delicti.

2. No court can convict an accused of robbery or murder, for example, upon confession alone without independent proof that the crime was committed.

3. A lawyer may have to "lay a foundation" for certain evidence. He cannot put a confession in evidence, for instance, before he has shown that it was made freely.

4. The judge then "instructs" the jury on the law to apply, and sometimes dis-

cusses the evidence in order to help the jury reach a just verdict.

5. The jury's verdict is a finding of fact and not a "judgment." The judge ordinarily makes the judgment within 21 days after the trial. In a criminal case, it is called the "sentence" — death, imprisonment, fine, etc.

6. Meantime, as a rule, the judge asks the probation officer to look into the case and report after talks with the accused's friends, kinfolks, former employers, or teachers.

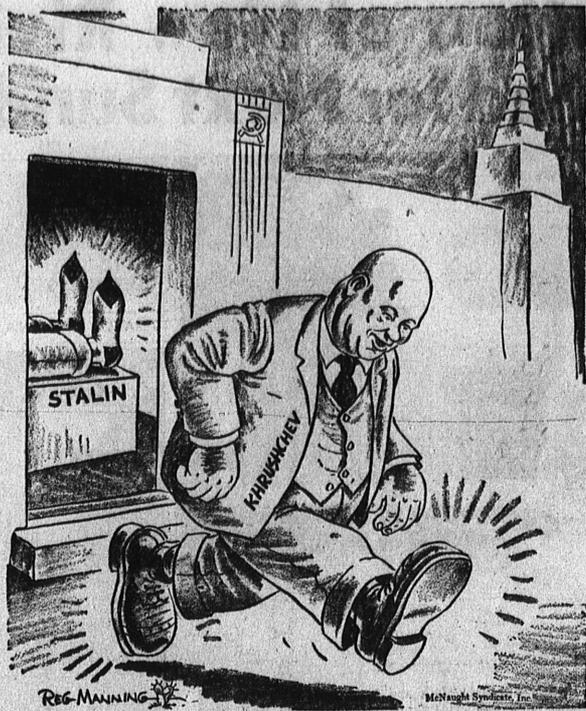
7. Should the judge grant probation, the accused reports to a probation officer for the term, and then asks the judge to end his probation.

Without probation, our laws fix minimum and maximum terms of imprisonment. After the prisoner has served long enough for the Adult Authority to study him, it sets his sentence within these limits.

A prisoner may also merit time off for good behavior.

Note: California lawyers offer this column for you to know about our laws.

Shoes



YOUR PROBLEMS by Ann Landers

Reverse Yourself, Dad

Dear Ann: I always thought advice columns were for idiots, but I need help from a disinterested party. How about it?

I'm a successful business man, age 44. To put it bluntly, I've outgrown my wife. She's a nice person, but she bores me. She doesn't read a thing outside of a few cheap novels, a couple of cook books and maybe a newspaper. Her conversation is dull. She's gained 30 pounds since we've been married (22 years) but she'd rather make jokes about it than deprive herself of gray and rich desserts.

I'll admit she's done a good job of raising our four children, but they're pretty much on their own now and she doesn't have to do much for them any longer. Our youngest is 14, the oldest is 19. When I travel in business circles and meet stimulating, smart women it makes me more aware of how little I have in common with my wife. I've never known you to okay a divorce but how about being objective for once and reversing yourself? —H.K.

Why don't YOU reverse yourself, Dad? What do you mean you haven't anything in common with your wife? If four kids aren't enough to bind a couple together, what is?

Just because she isn't an expert on political science and world affairs doesn't mean you should dump her after 22 years.

Your remark that the kids "don't need much attention anymore" is proof of how far out of you are. Four teenagers can be a handful, but you wouldn't know about this since you're too busy meeting stimulating, smart women in business circles.

Don't snatch at her added 30 pounds as an excuse for what you're up to, Buster. Some women are overweight because they seek pleasure from food that they should be getting from your husbands. Without meeting your wife I'd say YOU got the best of the bargain... sight unseen.

Dear Ann: Our little six-year-old daughter was devoted to her grandfather. He passed away suddenly and it was hard for her to understand why such a kind man should be taken from his loving family.

She asked her grandmother if "Gramps" would be able to play pinocle in heaven. The reply was "Certainly NOT. The Lord doesn't permit wicked things like card-playing up there."

Our daughter was very sad and both my husband and I felt Grandmother had not answered the little girl properly. Although Grandmother never approved of "Gramps" card-playing and made it clear to all members of the family, we felt this was not the occasion to speak her

piece. What is your opinion? —Pat and Mike.

I agree with you. The child was not interested in the moral aspect of card-playing. In her little six-year-old mind all she wanted was reassurance that her beloved Gramps would be happy in heaven.

Even though Grandmother disapproved of card-playing, she should have given the child the comfort and satisfaction she was seeking. It would have cost her nothing, and it would have meant a great deal to the little girl. Shame on Grandmother.

Dean Ann: I'm a girl 15 years old and the doctor says I'm 30 pounds overweight. My mother is always yacking at me to watch my diet, but it's hard to do when food looks so good and I'm half starved all the time.

Mother says I'll have many more friends if I get down to my normal weight but I don't see how this has anything to do with it. My personality

wouldn't be any different if I was a bean-pole, would it? I have some nice girls friends and we have fun together. It's true I haven't had many dates but a boy who is only interested in a girl's figure isn't much good anyway. Please tell my mother I'm right so she'll leave me alone. —Tess.

Enough of those excuses, Tess, let's get down to tacks of brass. Not only is it unhealthy physically, but also emotionally, to be 30 pounds overweight. Maybe the girls wouldn't be any friendlier if you go down to size, but I can assure you most fellows don't want to be seen with a hump.

Your Mom nags you because she knows how much happier you'll be if you knuckle down and get to work on that diet. Now get busy!

(Ann Landers will be happy to help you with your problems. Send them to her in care of the HERALD and enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope.) (C) 1957, Field Enterprises, Inc.

THE FREELANCER by Tom Rische

Watching Nikita

There's nothing that scares a guy more than the thought of losing his job.

Lots of anxious eyes were scanning the newspapers last week to find out what is going to happen at North American Aviation as a result of the government cancellation of its missile contract. Rumor had it that as many as 10,000 workers might be out of a job as a result.

This was big news in Torrance, because some 2500 local people, who bring home the bacon for some 5000 to 7000 more people, are employed at North American.

"I thought missile work couldn't miss," a friend of mine said sadly. "Now, I'm not so sure. I probably won't lose my job, but I'll probably get demoted. With another baby on the way, that's pretty rough."

The same thoughts passed through the minds of many aircraft workers, especially those without much seniority.

Airplanes are to Southern California what copper is to Montana, wheat is to Kansas, and tobacco is to North Carolina.

Other aircraft factories in this area seem to be going full steam ahead, but over the years, most of them have had their ups and downs as a result of government contracts.

Southern California would be in a sad state if they all had slack times at once.

AFTER HOURS By John Morley

A Report on Red Economy

STALINGRAD, Russia... (Delayed)—During the entire 40-year turbulent Communist history here in Russia, the government has been in financial troubles. The reader may say that so has the United States and the rest of the world in the past 40 years, which is, of course, true. But the United States has never repudiated its bonded obligations to its citizens. And this makes an important difference in any comparison of financial crisis inside Russia as compared with the U. S.

Communist Party Secretary Nikita Khrushchev appeared before a mass meeting here in Stalingrad, as well as other Russian industrial centers, a few months ago, and told workers that the government decided to postpone interest payments and redemption of outstanding Russian bonds for at least 20 years more. This is the third consecutive repudiation of payment since the original bonds were issued in 1928 at the time of the first five-year plan. The total value of these bonds is a staggering 260,000,000,000 rubles, or \$65 billion. This would be like the U. S. government repudiating the redemption of \$55,000,000,000 in U. S. Savings bonds outstanding.

The controlled Soviet press is still saying along the route I covered from Moscow here that the "people have accepted their government's decision with applause and enthusiasm." One item quoting Mr. Khrushchev reported that "the universal acceptance of bond payment redemption by the Russian people would be especially puzzling to the capitalists of the West, who could never understand this patriotic spirit of our people." Nevertheless, this reporter will try to understand it.

The analogy of this Soviet financial manipulation would be for the United States to refuse to redeem the bonds sold to its citizens. At least in our case the citizens did not have to buy the bonds. In Russia they were forced to, with weekly deductions from their paychecks. This is all the more reason why the Soviet repudiation is ominous for the Soviet economy.

It's downright stupidity to even assume that the Russian people will, of their own free will, continue to buy government bonds now that they know they will not be redeemed for some 20 years, if ever. It's like a loss of their savings, or a radical change in whatever plans they had made of use their savings bonds for their declining years. No doubt millions of Russian people were counting on the redemption of their bonds — with interest — to take it easier, or even to retire. Many of them are senior citizens, who will not be around to redeem the bonds even if they could 20 years from now.

The whole manipulation is nothing but a Soviet admission that there is not enough money in the Communist till to redeem the bonds and such drastic steps are necessary to prevent financial catastrophe. Inability to pay debts is a serious risk in any private enterprise. But government default on its honored obligations to its own citizens under such circumstances, as announced by the Soviet government, is a confession of Soviet bankruptcy pure and simple.

People who don't have jobs don't have money and don't buy things. The stores from which they don't buy things don't need as much help and the cycle continues.

When people aren't buying, the banks and loan firms get worried and make money harder to get. Then the people who don't have money find themselves in real trouble, unless they have a rich relative. Especially hard hit are the people who have bought houses, cars, appliances, and clothes with no down payments and umpteen months to pay.

Actually, the experts tell us that prosperity will be pretty lasting and that there should never be another 1929. Still, when a guy is afraid he's going to lose his job, he can't help giving the whole business just a little thought.

Keep an eye on Nikita Khrushchev.

out of one pocket and putting it in the other," they announced in the press here in Stalingrad.

The U. S. government, on the other hand, does not consider it "silly" to honor its obligations. We have a parallel problem insofar that our U. S. savings bonds mature and are up for periodic redemption. Last April the U. S. Congress voted the interest from 3 to 3 3/4% to encourage the public to reinvest

the money from redeemed bonds or to continue to buy them. What this spells in the U. S. . . . and not in Russia . . . is that the U. S. government honors its obligations.

When the American people put their money voluntarily into U. S. savings bonds, they are setting aside reserves in the safest investment known for future use when needed. They know that come rain or high water their government's obligations will be met.

FROM THE MAILBOX By Our Readers

Do It Yourself?

Editor, Torrance Herald, The Do-It-Yourself craze in local government carries unfair risks.

Those who make the blunders do not pay the bill. The question of liability is vital. Anyone who suffers loss or damage through the actions of five inexperienced city councilmen or their numerous untrained political appointees is entitled to sue the municipality. What would it cost to employ a city attorney experienced enough to keep such a group within the law? How much insurance would cover the risk?

The contracts with the county specify that the "city" will assume all liability concerning county employees while working for the "city," and will defend the county in any litigation arising from the contract.

Don't assume that the "city" cannot tax more than \$1 per \$100 assessed valuation. The County Administrator has just issued an analysis for sources of revenue for California cities which show seven additional special taxes, with a combined maximum of \$1.40, which may be levied in addition to the \$1 tax, three of which also have no ceiling.

Efficient, responsible county employees are now doing the job well, with the county assuming all liability. Should Lomitan endorse a home-made local government, and pay damage while amateurs "go?"

MAY W. ROSS

Lomita City Battle

Editor, Torrance Herald

A joint meeting of the Board of the Lomita Property Owners and Registered Voters Assn., and the Lomita Civic League was held at the home of Mrs. Dessie Myers on June 27th, at which time various means of combatting incorporation were discussed.

Owing to the fact that the regular bi-monthly meeting of the League would have fallen on July 4th, it was cancelled, and no meeting scheduled for a later date, as it is possible the President may call a special meeting.

The next regular bi-monthly meeting of the Lomita Civic League will be held on Thursday, September 5th. Members will be notified by card of the time and place, for both a special meeting, if called, and the regular meeting.

We wish to make clear to everyone that the Lomita Civic League is a permanent organization, which will still exist after the incorporation election. It will continue to work for the best interests of our community, and new members are cordially invited to join. Contact Mrs. David Fay, our Membership Chairman, at DA 6-4916 for further information.

At a recent meeting held in the Little Theater, Mr. Robert T. Anderson, Assistant Administrative Officer of Los Angeles County, stressed the fact that anyone can ask for exclusion of his property from the proposed "City of Lomita" by filing a request to that effect together with his name and legal description of his property as shown on his tax bill, with Norman Nevig, Chief Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, 501 Hall of Records, Los Angeles 12, California.

Your request for exclusion should be filed not later than Aug. 5th, 1957. This will give the Chief Clerk time to plot your property on the map before the Boundary Hearing, which will be held on Aug. 8th, 1957 at 9:30 a.m., Hall of Records, Los Angeles, California.

If you wish further information on exclusion call Mr. Ross, DA 6-5787 or Mr. Brisbin, DA 6-4747.

As an added precaution, be sure you are registered, so you can vote against incorporation when the election comes up this fall.

MRS. M. S. GOODWIN
Publicity Chairman
Lomita.

A Call for Help

Editor, Torrance Herald, Editor, Torrance Area Youth Band has been invited to play at the Midwest National Band Clinic to be held at the world famous Sherman Hotel in Chicago on Dec. 18, 19, 20, and 21.

Only eight bands from the United States and Canada are selected each year to perform for this clinic—the nation's largest annual music teachers convention of its kind. Our band was the only band chosen this year from the Western States and this year marks the first time in the history of this convention that a youth band, outside the ranks of school and colleges, has been so honored. Around 5000 band directors and music educators attend this convention each year.

We will be expected to prepare and present at least one two-hour concert for convention visitors. Pictures of our band, articles and announcements of our appearance there will be published in several national music magazines. All concerts, including ours, will be recorded on the spot and made available to all visiting music teachers and students.

This event will bring national recognition to our band as well as to our community. It will mean that "once in a lifetime" experience for the boys and girls who make the trip.

We are expected to pay our own expenses which we estimate will cost around \$250-000. This amount will cover transportation and lodging for the seven-day trip for 82 musicians, chaperones, and staff members. This means about \$275 per person.

The band members and parents already have begun an intensive drive to raise the necessary funds with which to make the trip. However, we feel that financial assistance from others able to help will be needed to make our fund raising campaign a success.

If you feel you are able to "pay the way" for at least one band member, or any part thereof, your donations will be greatly appreciated. We must decide by July 31 whether to continue our efforts.

JAMES VAN DYCK
Director

Torrance Herald

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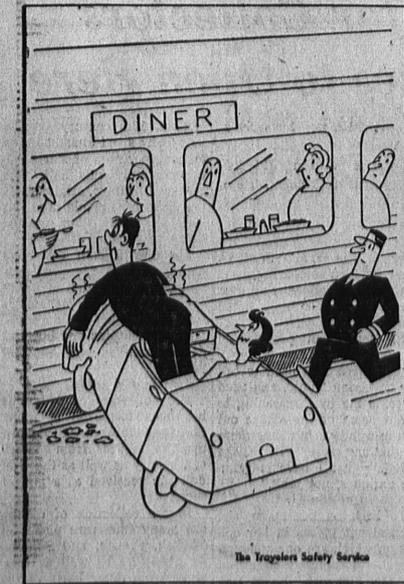
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Speed and carelessness killed 40,000 persons in 1956.